GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2381
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2016
ECCE
Singh Shri Pashupati Nath

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) scheme under Integrated Child Development Services(ICDS) Scheme is gradually becoming ineffective in the urban and rural areas;
(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government proposes to conduct/has conducted any survey in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details of the finding/outcome thereof, State/UT-wise including Jharkhand along with the outcome thereof by the Government?

Answer

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SMT. MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI)

(a) & (b) Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme is a centrally sponsored flagship scheme of the Government of India implemented by the State Governments/UTs Administrations. The scheme is universalized and self-selecting. Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) is one of the six services under ICDS. Under restructured ICDS special focus has been given on strengthening Early Childhood Care & Education as a core service of the Anganwadi Centres with dedicated four hours of early childhood education sessions. The number of beneficiaries (children 3-6 years) has slightly increased from 353.29 Lakh during 2012-13 to 354.05 Lakh during 2015-16 (as on 31.12.2015).

(c) & (d) Rapid Survey on Children (RSOC) was commissioned by the Ministry of Women and Child Development across 29 States during 2013-14 with technical assistance from UNICEF India. Key objective of the survey was to assess the situation of children and women with a special emphasis on access and utilization of services under the ICDS Scheme and to provide baseline data for the restructured ICDS Scheme. Early Childhood Care and pre-school Education is one of the aspects covered under the survey. According to RSOC (2013-14), 37.9% children aged 3-5 years attended pre-school education (PSE) in ICDS run Anganwadi Centres (45.1% in Rural Area and 21.6% in Urban Area). State-wise details including Jharkhand is placed at Annexure.

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